

XXVIII.—*Description of a new Species of Pigeon from the Karen Hills.* By ARTHUR, Viscount WALDEN, P.Z.S., F.R.S.

Ducula griseicapilla, n. sp.

Chin and throat pure white; remainder of lower surface pale grey, the breast being tinged with lilac; back of neck vinous; interscapular region brown with a vinous tinge; wing-coverts brown, like the back, but not so strongly tinted with vinous; quills dark brown, almost black; uropygium and upper tail-coverts dark ash; rectrices above dark brown, with a broad grey terminal band; lower surface of rectrices pale grey; under tail-coverts pale cream-colour; forehead, crown, nape, cheeks, and ear-coverts pure French grey.

Wing 9·5 inches, tail 8·5, bill from forehead 1, tarsus 1, middle toe 1·75.

"Iris (♀) greyish white; orbits grey-brown; bill reddish plum-colour, pale at tip" (*Wardlaw Ramsay*).

Described from examples obtained by Lieutenant Wardlaw Ramsay on the Karen hills, at from 4000 to 4200 feet. A representative form of *D. insignis* and *D. badia*.

XXIX.—*Descriptions of some Leporine Mammals from Central Asia.* By Dr. ALBERT GÜNTHER, F.R.S.

THE British Museum has recently received several small collections of Central-Asiatic Mammalia, which consisted chiefly of species previously known, but imperfectly represented in the National Collection. Among the specimens of hares (*Lepus* and *Lagomys*), for the majority of which we are indebted to Capt. J. Biddulph, there were several species apparently hitherto undescribed; and on these and a few others I beg to offer the following remarks.

Lepus tibetanus (Waterhouse).

Two specimens, obtained by Captain Biddulph in June in the Nobra valley, agree very well with the type of this species, being only a little smaller in size, while a fourth specimen, collected many years ago by Captain Strachey in Ladak, equals the latter in this respect. Also in this species the hairs are straight, and not curled as in *Lepus pallipes*.

Lepus oïstolus of Hodgson, which I know only from the

drawing in his collection and from a very young example presented by him to the Museum, has evidently curly hairs on the back; and therefore I doubt whether it is correctly referred to the synonymy of *Lepus tibetanus*.

Lepus pamirensis.

Distinguished by its unusually dense and rather short and stiff fur, which reminds one of that of the wild sheep of the same region: this peculiarity of the fur, however, is limited to the back; on the haunches and on the sides it is as soft as in other species. *Also the front part of the ears is covered with an extraordinarily dense and comparatively long and stiff fur.* Back brownish, darkest in the middle; haunches light grey; back of the neck and foremost part of the chest rufous. A whitish streak above the eye. Front part of the ear brown, like the back; apex of the ear blackish below; both margins of the ear-opening white, but the white fringe of the lower margin is accompanied on the inside of the ear by a dark brown band. Legs white, fore part of the front legs and outer part of the hind legs slightly tinged with yellow-rufous.

	inches.
Length from tip of nose to root of tail . . .	15
Length from nose to occiput	3½
Length of ear	4
Length of tarsus, including the nails	4¾

A single specimen, stated to be a young male, was obtained on the Pamir in the month of May.

Lepus yarkandensis.

Differs from *L. tibetanus* in lacking the black colour near the apex and margins of the ears, from *L. pallipes* in being without grey on the haunches, and from both in being of smaller size, and especially in the legs being more slender.

Fur long, dense, silky, without any tendency to curl. Back of a pale ochre-colour, some of the hairs being black-tipped. The colour of the back passes on the sides gradually into the pure white of the lower parts, the hairs of the abdomen being remarkably long. Chest with a faint reddish tinge, the hairs of this region being of a light slate-colour at the base. Upper part of the head, anterior margin of the ears, and side of the head coloured like the back. A whitish band round the upper part of the orbit, continued for some distance in the direction towards the base of the ear; a more or less conspicuous whitish

band ascends from the throat towards the ear. Front part of the ears covered with a moderately dense fur; hind margin of the ear with a dense fringe of buff-coloured hairs. Tail white, brownish grey above; fore legs of a delicate buff colour like the back of the neck; hind legs of a still lighter colour, nearly white.

	inches.
Length from tip of nose to root of tail	16
Length from nose to occiput	4
Length of ear	4½
Length of tarsus, including the nails	4

The two specimens in the British Museum were obtained by Captain Biddulph in November and January, in the neighbourhood of Yarkand; both are nearly of the same size.

Lagomys nepalensis (Hodgson).

M. Alphonse Milne-Edwards, in his remarks on the species of this genus in 'Recherch. Mammif.,' observes that the definition of the species hitherto described is somewhat vague, and that their number would probably have to be reduced, the majority being founded on slight modifications of colour. As far as I can judge from the specimens of the Asiatic species in the British Museum, I believe that they are easily distinguishable, and that the coloration is pretty constant in the species of the same range. With regard to the species described by him as *Lagomys tibetanus*, I admit that there is considerable difficulty in separating it from *L. nepalensis*, of which we possess specimens almost identical with *L. tibetanus* in size and colour.

Lagomys Curzoniae (Hodgson).

General hue of a pale sandy brownish grey, many of the hairs on the back having blackish tips; upper part of the head and cheeks coloured like the back; a whitish crossband on each side of the throat behind the ear; these bands are not confluent, but separated from each other along the middle of the neck by a stripe of the same dark colour as the back. The colour of the back gradually passes into the whitish of the lower parts, which is slightly washed with rufous. Chin black; feet whitish. A subcutaneous glandular patch below the ear is indicated by hairs which are of a rusty colour at the base. Soles of the feet covered with rather long hairs, below which the pads of the toes are hidden. Ears of moderate size, sparsely covered with hairs. The fur re-

sembles, as regards denseness and structure, that of *Lagomys rufescens*.

	inches.
Total length	8
Length of ear	$\frac{3}{4}$
Length of tarsus, including nails	$1\frac{1}{4}$

The above diagnosis is taken from two skins presented by Mr. Hodgson as *Lagomys Curzonie* in the year 1858. The specimens were obtained in the Sikkim Himalayas.

Lagomys ladacensis.

I propose this name for the Ladak species fully described by Stoliczka and Anderson under the name of *L. Curzonie* (Hodgson). Mr. Blanford (Journ. As. Soc. Beng. 1872, p. 35) has already expressed his very just doubts respecting the propriety of identifying the Ladak species with that described by Hodgson. To the descriptions published I have only to add that the glandular patch on each side of the throat, below the ear, which is so very distinct in *L. rufescens*, is very indistinctly indicated by the colour and structure of the hairs in the present species; and that the hairs on the lower side of the feet, although dense, are not long enough to hide the black pads of the toes.

The specimens before me are from Chagra, 14000 feet above the sea.

Lagomys macrotis.

Fur very soft and long, especially on the hind part of the back. General hue of the upper parts pale buff-yellow, whitish on the sides and underneath; a small white patch behind the ear; feet pure white; chin white; the hairs of the moustaches white, but some of them black. Apparently no glandular patch below the ear. Ears very large, well covered with hairs. Soles of the feet covered with short hairs, leaving the pads of the toes quite bare.

	inches.
Total length	8
Length of ear	$1\frac{1}{8}$
Length of tarsus, including nails	$1\frac{3}{8}$

Of this long-eared species I have seen two specimens: one of them, which is in a very bad condition, has been in the British Museum since 1844, without indication of its habitat; for the other we are indebted to Captain Biddulph, who gives Doba as the locality.